

Washington to agree on every issue. But they do expect us to put the Nation's interest before party interests. They do expect us to forge reasonable compromise where we can. Our work will not be easy. But America only moves forward when we do so together—when we accept certain obligations to one another and to future generations. That's the American story. And that's how we will write the next great chapter—together.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 2013.

□ 1230

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE WORLD WAR I CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 4(b) of the World War I Centennial Commission Act (Pub. L. 112-272), and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, of the following individual on the part of the House to the World War I Centennial Commission:

Mr. TED POE, Humble, Texas

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 1151), as amended by section 1601 of Pub. L. 111-68, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees of the Open World Leadership Center:

Mr. FORTENBERRY, Nebraska

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. I yield to my friend, the majority leader, Mr. CANTOR of Virginia.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland, the Democratic whip, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, on Monday the House will meet at noon for morning-hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. Votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for morning-hour and noon for legislative business. On Thursday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business. Last votes of the week are expected no later than 3 p.m. On Friday, no votes are expected.

Mr. Speaker, the House will consider a few suspensions on Monday, a complete list of which will be announced by close of business today. In addition, we'll take up an expected Senate amendment to the House's continuing

resolution, ensuring that the Federal Government remains funded beyond March 27. We'll also consider a resolution providing for the funding of the House's committees. This is a responsible resolution that makes tough choices and abides by sequestration.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the Republican House will consider and pass a budget resolution on time for a third consecutive year. The Republican plan, put forward by Chairman PAUL RYAN in the Budget Committee, will increase economic growth and job creation, cut wasteful government spending, and strengthen our entitlement programs. And for the first time in recent memory, the House budget will balance in 10 years.

Before I yield back, I would like to acknowledge the launch of the House Historian's new Web site, "The House and Selma: Bridging History and Memory." This important historical record is now available for the public to explore at History.House.gov. It will soon include oral testimonies from Members of Congress, like JOHN LEWIS, describing their role and contributions to the civil rights movement.

I was proud to have joined Congressman JOHN LEWIS, Congresswomen TERRI SEWELL and MARTHA ROBY, the gentleman from Maryland, as well as others, in that trip to Selma and Montgomery this year. But to those in particular who were actively involved in the unveiling of this project, I look forward to its growth in the years to come.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his comments, and I would remark that I was pleased that he had the opportunity to go to Selma with JOHN LEWIS and others of us who had the opportunity to go to the birthplace of our colleague, TERRI SEWELL. Congresswoman SEWELL is on the floor.

The March to Selma, of course, which was interdicted by members of the Alabama State Police at the direction of the Governor, was one of the advances, the gentleman knows, that led to the introduction, passage, and signing by President Johnson of the Voting Rights Act. We are privileged to serve with someone whose contribution to this country and to the realization of its promise of equality to all was so enhanced by the life and commitment and courage of JOHN LEWIS, our colleague. And I was glad that the gentleman participated with us on that. I also am very pleased to hear about the Web site. I think that's a very positive step. I want to thank the gentleman also for the information about next week.

Mr. Leader, I would first like to ask about the budget resolution that you referenced that will be coming next week. I wondered if there's any plan on the floor to replace the sequester, which all of us seem to think is irrational—at least I think it's irrational and most of the colleagues I talk to think that it is irrational in that it is a meat-ax approach, and we have of-

fered a number of times to get to the same budget savings—but notwithstanding that, whether there was any thought of replacing the sequester with its cuts to high priority and low priority by the same percentage to replace that. Is there any plan to do that, as far as you know?

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman knows, the CR, and the amendments that the Senate is working on, contains within it measures dealing with certain sectors of government that prescribe for spending plans that avoid that very blunt, indiscriminate approach that the gentleman speaks about in the across-the-board sequestration formula. The gentleman knows I agree with him. These kinds of cuts are not smart. They are indiscriminate. They cut good programs just like they cut bad programs.

I don't think any of us would choose to do things that way. I look forward to working with him to see what we can do to even expand the prescription to go beyond that which is in the sequester.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his comments, and that would be a positive effort, I think, towards that. Of course, if we could adopt a budget and if we could adopt appropriation bills and Ways and Means recommendations pursuant to such a budget, that would be a very much appreciated option to the sequester. Having said that, the Budget Committee did a markup this week on Wednesday, and I know members of the committee worked well into the night, both Republicans and Democrats. And I wanted to ask the gentleman, I know that normally when we bring a budget—both sides have brought a budget—which does in fact allow for substitutes, but for the most part it does not allow individual amendments.

Now I say that because so many amendments were rejected in the committee. Mr. CÁRDENAS from California offered an amendment to protect the mortgage interest deduction for the middle class. That amendment was voted for unanimously by Democrats and unanimously opposed by Republican members of the committee. Mr. CICILLINE offered an amendment to protect workers from privatizing Social Security. Again, on a partisan vote, with Democrats supporting the Cicilline amendment and Republicans opposing it, it was rejected.

Mr. JEFFRIES from New York offered an amendment to prevent the student loan interest rate from doubling, which as the gentleman knows is set to occur on June 30 without our action. Again, unfortunately, on the same partisan vote—the Democrats voting for the Jeffries amendment and Republicans voting against it—it failed. Mr. POCAN of Wisconsin offered an amendment to protect middle class Americans from tax increases. It seems to me that we have agreement on that; but, nevertheless, that amendment was rejected,